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Loch Raven Dam rehab honored as public works 'Project of the Year'

Kansas City, Mo.—The Loch Raven Dam rehabilitation project was recently named a Public Works Project of the Year by the American Public Works Association (APWA). The City of Baltimore, Md., managing agency, along with primary contractor ASI/Cianbro Joint Venture and primary consultant Gannett Fleming, Inc., will be presented with the award during APWA's International Public Works Congress and Exposition held in September in Kansas City, Mo.

APWA Projects of the Year awards are presented annually to promote management and administration excellence of public works projects by recognizing alliances between managing agencies, contractors, consultants and their cooperative achievements. This year APWA selected 19 projects in five categories: Disaster or Emergency Construction/Repair, Environment, Historical Restoration/Preservation, Structures and Transportation.

Awarded in the Structures category, \$10-100 million range, Loch Raven Dam was originally built in 1914 and raised to its present height in 1922. The dam impounds water within the Loch Raven Reservoir, one of the primary water sources for the Greater Baltimore area. Modern dam safety studies classified the dam as "high hazard," meaning failure of the structure would likely result in loss of life, significant property damage and elimination of the drinking water supply for nearly one million people. Accordingly, and with support from Baltimore County, the City of Baltimore undertook this major dam rehabilitation project.

As construction began, above-average, sometimes record-breaking rainfall kept the reservoir overtopping the dam throughout the three-year project. The Loch Raven Reservoir could not be taken out of service during construction, requiring renovation of the structure one half at a time. Also, all work took place in a pristine watershed environment, in compliance with stringent regulations and under close scrutiny from surrounding communities. Despite constantly evolving challenges, the Loch Raven Dam Rehabilitation was successfully delivered five months ahead of schedule and \$500,000 under budget.

For more information or to obtain a press pass for attendance at the awards ceremony during APWA's International Congress and Exposition in Kansas City, Mo., contact Becky Wickstrom, bwickstrom@apwa.net or (202) 218-6736.

About APWA

The American Public Works Association (www.apwa.net) is a not-for-profit, international organization of more than 27,000 members involved in the field of public works. Originally chartered in 1937, APWA serves its members by promoting professional excellence and public awareness through education, advocacy and the exchange of knowledge. With 67 chapters throughout North America, APWA is headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, and has an office in Washington, D.C.

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